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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/766,241	01/27/2004	Rudolf Reitberger	DT-6744	4170

30377 7590 08/28/2006

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EXAMINER

WINDLEY III, WILLIAM R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3682

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/766,241

Applicant(s)

REITBERGER, RUDOLF

Examiner

William Windley III

Art Unit

3682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reitberger USP 5549390 in view of Keller USP 6472778.

Reitberger discloses all of the claimed subject matter in a similar device comprising a(n) axially extending toothed rack(10), axially extending receiving groove (9), and having toothing (11) facing outwardly.

Reitberger does not disclose a receiving groove having axially extending opposite sides each being inwardly undercut with a groove edge of said receiving groove secured in said undercut.

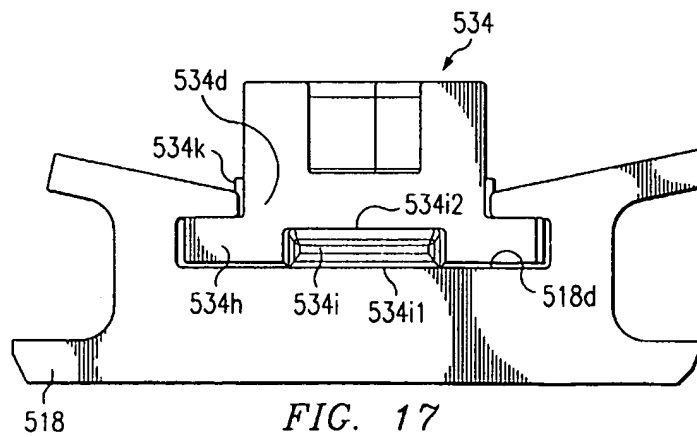
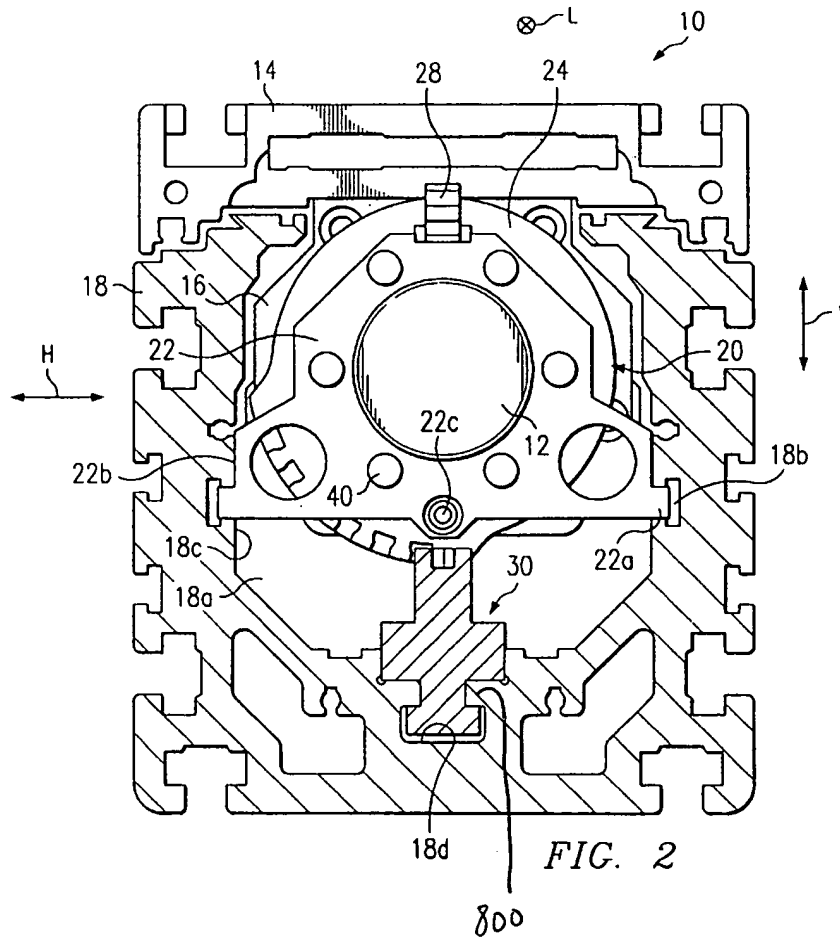
Keller teaches a receiving groove (18d) having axially extending opposite sides (See Figure 2) each being inwardly undercut (Column 6, lines 15-16) with a groove edge (800, See attached Figure 2 marked by examiner) of said receiving groove secured in said undercut for the purpose of securing the rail and preventing vertical movement.

U.S. Patent

Oct. 29, 2002

Sheet 2 of 6

US 6,472,778 B2



It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in art at the time the invention was made to modify the setup of Reitberger and employ a receiving groove having axially extending opposite sides each being inwardly undercut with a groove edge of said receiving groove secured in said undercut, as taught by Keller, for the purpose of securing the rail and preventing vertical movement.

3. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reitberger in view of Maffeis in further view of Hess.

Re claim 5, Reitberger discloses all of claimed subject matter, as stated above, but does not disclose that the guide section is formed of extruded aluminum and said toothed rack is formed of steel.

Maffeis teaches the use of a guide section formed of extruded aluminum for the purpose of being lightweight and its ease of manufacture (Column 2, lines 28-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the setup of Reitberger and employ a guide section formed of extruded aluminum, as taught by Maffeis, for the purpose of being lightweight and its ease of manufacture (Column 2, lines 28-31).

Hess teaches a toothed rack formed of steel for the purpose of being of simple shape and wear resistant (Column 1, lines 67-68 and Column 2, line 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the setup of Reitberger and employ a toothed rack formed of steel, as taught by Hess, for the purpose of being of simple shape and wear resistant (Column 1, lines 67-68 and Column 2, line 1).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Windley III whose telephone number is 571-272-6460. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on 571-272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

William Windley III  
8/21/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Ridley', is positioned above the printed name and title.

RICHARD RIDLEY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER